



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/681,649	10/08/2003	Amy L. Nehls	1410/67565	6105
48940 7590 01/23/2010 FITCH EVEN TABIN & FLANNERY 120 SOUTH LASALLE STREET SUITE 1600 CHICAGO, IL 60603-3406				
EXAMINER				
THAKUR, VIREN A				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1794				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
01/23/2010		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

---

*Ex parte:* AMY L. NEHLS and VERNON D. KARMAN

---

Application No. 10/681,649  
Technology Center 1700

---

Mailed: January 25, 2010

---

Before Joyce Gunter-Riley, Review Team Paralegal  
Gunter-Riley, Review Team Paralegal

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on January 04, 2010. A review of the application revealed that it is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner to address the following matter(s) requiring attention prior to docketing.

EXAMINER'S CONSIDERATION OF REPLY BRIEF

A Reply Brief was filed in this application on November 17, 2009. There is no evidence on the record indicating that the Examiner has considered the Reply Brief in accordance with 37 CFR CFR § 41.43(a)(1) and MPEP § 1208, part II.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner to;

- 1) consider the Reply Brief filed November 17, 2009 as indicated above; and
- 2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

If there are any questions pertaining to this Order, please contact the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences at 571-272-9797.

/jgr/

FITCH EVEN TABIN & FLANNERY  
120 SOUTH LASALLE STREET  
SUITE 1600  
CHICAGO IL 60603-3406